PBEFATORY NOTE

DR. ARTHUR RUPPIN has been the foremost pioneer of Jewish Sociology, and the present work is the result of studies extending over some thirty years. His first book on the subject was published in Germany in 1904; and it has passed through several editions; an English translation of it appeared in 1913 under the title *The Jews of To-day* > and it has also been translated into Hebrew and Italian. **Its** aim was to supply accurate data as basis for dealing with the complex Jewish question. Dr. Euppin continued his studies in the *Zeitschrift fur Demograpkie und Statwtik Her Juden,* a quarterly founded by him in 1905, in which material concerning the Jews, scattered in the statistical publications and papers of various countries, was systematically collected and analysed.

In 1907 Dr. Ruppin settled in Palestine as Director for Colonization of the Zionist Organization. In connexion with this work he had to undertake journeys into various countries which brought him into close contact with all classes of Jews. Since 1926, while maintaining his connexion with the colonization work in Palestine, he has lectured on Jewish sociology in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His

lectures, delivered in Hebrew, were published in Berlin as a book called *Die Soziokgie der Juden* (2 vok, 1930-1931), and in Hebrew at Tel-Aviv*(3 vols., 1931-1933). But oven the few years which have elapsed since 1930, have wrought fundamental changes in the position of the Jews, and have given a prominence and importance to the Jewish question such as it has not had for a long time past* The present work includes a survey of these recent developments,

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